

First Reaction

Fidel Is Opposed

By HENRY RAYMONT

HAVANA, March 14 (UPI) — Premier Fidel Castro assailed President Kennedy's proposed hemispheric "Alliance for Progress" early today as "an attempt to buy the conscience of Latin America."

"We'll see whether the conscience of Latin America can be bought for \$500 million, as Kennedy intends, or whether, as we contend, it cannot be bought at any price," Castro said in a rambling, three-hour speech to a crowd at Havana University.

Earlier, Ambassador to Moscow Faure Chaumont had formally proclaimed the Castro regime's "loyalty to communism" to the same audience, while Castro looked on, beaming.

Castro blamed the United

States for a "pirate ship" attack yesterday on the Santiago waterfront, which was reported to have put the seized Texaco oil refinery out of action for several weeks at least.

The Castro regime said at least one man was killed in the attack by a boat described only as fast and heavily armed for its size. During his speech, Castro displayed a 57-mm. (2¼ inch) shell which he said had been fired by the sea raider. He said it was "made in the U.S.A." The Cuban navy announced last night that it had abandoned its search for the boat, hinting broadly that it believed the boat had put into the U. S. Navy's big base at Guantanamo in eastern Cuba.

"Nothing to it as far as we're concerned," said an American officer at Guantanamo. "No ship or, otherwise, has been in here."

*Memorandum
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